



BALLARAT MUNICIPAL
OBSERVATORY & MUSEUM

The Sun and Our Seasons

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
(DAYTIME)
YEAR 5/6



Program Overview

"The Sun and Our Seasons" program introduces Year 5/6 students to the relationship between The Sun and The Earth.

Using a combination of talks, demonstrations and hands on experiences: Students will learn about the Earth's axial tilt and orbit and how this influences both our days and our seasons.

Students will learn about the 11-Year Solar Cycle (about the same age as the students) and how The Sun impacts life on Earth and in space.

Students will learn key terminology including Solstice, Equinox, Meridian, Orbit, Hemisphere, Astronomical Season, Meteorological Season and Sunspot.



Learning outcomes

- Describe the motion and tilt of the Earth
- Describe the apparent motion and location of the Sun throughout the year.
- Understand the relationship between the earth's motion, the sun's apparent motion and the seasons.
- Locate the four cardinal points using the Sun.

Activities

- Safe Observation of the Sun
- Exploring the Pipehenge
- Celestial Sphere
- Tracking Shadows.

Note: Some activities are weather dependent.



Curriculum Links

Level 3/4

VCGGC072, VCSSU061

Level 5/6

VCGGC086, VCMMG202, VCSSU078

Level 7/8

VCSSU099

IMAGE CREDITS:

J. Bailey K. McLoughlin

